



Winter 2001
COMMENCEMENT



MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE COLLEGE

Thirty-seventh Commencement

10 O'Clock • Saturday • December 15, 2001

Leggett & Platt Athletic Center

Processional: "Pomp and Circumstance" Elgar
"America The Beautiful" (*Please remain standing*)

Missouri Southern Commencement Ensemble

Invocation The Reverend Judith M. Henderson
Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Neosho

Welcome and Introductions Julio S. León
President, Missouri Southern State College

Address Herb Schmidt
President, CFI

Presentation of Class J. Larry Martin
*Vice President for Academic Affairs
Missouri Southern State College*

Conferring of Degrees Julio S. León

Presentation of Diplomas J. Larry Martin

Remarks Paul Teverow
President, Faculty Senate

Announcement of Academic Honors J. Larry Martin

Benediction The Reverend Judith M. Henderson

Recessional Missouri Southern Commencement Ensemble

Signer (for deaf) William Newby

(Please remain seated until recessional is completed.)



About the Speaker

Herb Schmidt graduated Summa Cum Laude from Missouri Southern State College in 1978 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science. His rapid ascension in the leadership ranks at Contract Freighters, Inc. began in 1984 when he joined one of the nation's most exceptional trucking companies as Director of Safety. Appointed President in May 2000, Mr. Schmidt oversees a multi-million dollar concern with offices and trucking terminals throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. He has served the company as Vice President of Safety, Vice President of Administration, Vice President of Operations, Senior Vice President of Operations and Senior Vice President of Marketing

and Sales. CFI's international services lead the industry in providing a seamless transportation conduit throughout North America. The nation's 11th largest truckload carrier derives 50 percent of its revenues from business that originates from or is destined for Mexico.

In addition to the continental U.S., the company moves freight to and from every province in Canada and Mexico and even serves Central America. CFI has experienced dramatic growth with revenues climbing from \$14 million in 1980 to \$321.7 million in 2000. Its strong 5A2 Dun & Bradstreet rating and its rank in the top 1 percent in the industry with respect to profit margin are evidence of the company's strength. Mr. Schmidt served as driver supervisor, terminal manager and industrial engineering manager for Untied Parcel Service prior to joining CFI. His wife Suzanne, owns and operates Suzanne's Natural Foods in Joplin, and they have a 16-year-old son, Tyler. Mr. Schmidt served on Missouri Southern's Alumni Board and in leadership roles for a variety of trucking related organizations, including President of the Truckload Carriers Association and Chairman of the Professional Truck Driver Institute of America, a certification body for truck driving schools across the country.

Candidates for Honors & Degrees

Baccalaureate Degrees

Summa Cum Laude

Grade point average 3.90 or above

Belt, Alexander A. ♦
Cowgur, Cheryl A. ♦
Deshayes, Melissa Marie ♦
Dunn, Randall Jay

Hinman, Bradley A.
Kalinowski, Damian Krzysztof ♦
McCormick, Jenny Melvia

Phipps, Wendy Lee ♦ †
Spencer, Mary E. ♦
Talley, Kristy Elaine †

Magna Cum Laude

Grade point average 3.80 - 3.89

Fairbanks, Carla S.
Jelinek, Shanna Elizabeth
Kyte, Craig

Olson, Amber Shay
Osborne, Daniel Lee †
Replogle, Heather Nicole

Sellers, Erin D. †
Stewart, Cheryl Lee
Westover, Tiffany De'ette

Cum Laude

Grade point average 3.70 - 3.79

Bigheart, Juanita R.
Crafford, Anita Rae
Friskey, Michelle Kay

Langston, Melissa
Leverich, Amberly Dawn
Lund, Ryan Mikell

Morrison Jr., Gary Lynn
Phipps, Linda Diane
Rhymer, Jennifer Elizabeth

Associate Degrees

First Honors

Grade point average 3.90 or above

Field, Cathleen A.
Nunnally, Robert C. ♦
Rolando, Charity JoLynn

Third Honors

Grade point average 3.70 - 3.79

Gregory, Nicole LeAnn

School of Arts and Sciences

Bachelor of Arts

Aggus, Erin L.
English
Nixa

Bass, Leslie James
Political Science
Sarcoxie

Bigheart, Juanita R.
English
Miami, OK

Bone, Jodie Ann
Communications
Pineville

Brady, Dawn Michelle
History
Carterville

Branum, Bekka Lynn
History
Monett

Chairez, Luz Aurora
French
Joplin

Christman, Stephanie
Jane
Theatre
Joplin

Dickerson, Jesse Lyn
International Studies
Joplin

Droz, Julie Ann
Communications
Rich Hill

Dunn, Michael Bill
Communications
Joplin

Elliott, Mary Catherine
Communications
Nevada

Ishii, Mayuka
Communications
Yokohama-shi Kanagawa,
Japan

Keith, Karina L.
English
Seneca

Kelly, Kristopher Lee
Art
Joplin

Kubicek, Rachel Marie
English
Joplin

Laning, Melody Ranae
Communications
Nevada

Leverich, Amberly Dawn
Communications
Joplin

Morris, Erin Elizabeth
Communications
Nevada

Paothong, Noppadol
Communications
Joplin

Pryor, L'Quincy G.
Communications
Augusta, AR

Sandoval, Dytri
Political Science
Carthage

Sellers, Erin D. †
Communications
Owasso, OK

Simmons, Jason Ryan
Communications
Joplin

Smith, Wesley J.
Music
Joplin

Stearnes, Kyle Wayne
Art
Carthage

Tyler, Jennifer Renee
Theatre
Joplin

Wells, Robert Jeffrey
David
History
Joplin

Bachelor of Science

Alford, John D.
Biology
Joplin

Barchak, Joseph Patrick
Sociology
Wentworth

Belt, Alexander A. ♦
Biology
Joplin

Brown, Diana Darlene
Sociology
Webb City

Chapman, Michelle Dawn
Biology
Neosho

Clark, Carrie Ann
Biology
Mt. Vernon

Crafford, Anita Rae
Biology
Sarcoxie

Fairbanks, Carla S.
Biology
Creighton

Ferguson, Shannon
Michael
Environmental Health
Pierce City

Gilstrap, Misty Beth
Sociology
Neosho

Hummert, Melissa Lynn
Biology
Joplin

Langenbacher, Jon L.
Biology
Eureka

McCraw, Heather Lynn
Sociology
Webb City

O'Brien, Ashli Denise
Biology
Parsons, KS

Oplotnik, Amber Clovise
Biology
Columbus, KS

Oplotnik, Ashley Grace
Biology
Baxter Springs, KS

Patterson, Jean Marie
Sociology
Pierce City

Phillips, Desiree' Marie
Biology
Webb City

**Slaten-Bickford,
Shannon E.**
Biology
Joplin

Son, Jung Eun
Biology
Carthage

Uhlmann, Jeremy S.
Environmental Health
Drury

Wecker, Nathan Edward
Biology
Joplin,

**Wichman, Jr., Robert
William**
Sociology
Florissant

Wilson, Jeffrey Lee
Biology
Fair Grove

Wilson, Shellie Marie
Sociology
Joplin

Woolverton, Mirriah De An
Biology
Webb City

Wyman, Anna R.
Biology
Alba

School of Business

Bachelor of Science

David, Richard E.
*Management Technology
(MIMS)*
Nevada

Hand, Julie
Management Technology
Carthage

Higgs, Paula
*Management Technology
(MIMS)*
Monett

Macy, Pamela M.
Management Technology
Goodman

Snowden, Steve
Management Technology
Springfield

Turner, William S. R.
*Management Technology
(MIMS)*
Carthage

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Alloway, Heath
General Business
Parsons, KS

Arnold, Mary A.
Accounting
Joplin

Babbitt, Stephana Marie
Marketing
Kimberling City

Beerly, Andrea Layne
Marketing
Golden City

Beyer, Jennifer M.
Accounting
Joplin

Bickell, Deidre L.
Accounting
Vinita, OK

Blazar, Candy G.
Accounting
Joplin

Bradshaw, Jeremy K.
Management
Joplin

Braeckel, Selene R.
*Accounting/Economics
and Finance*
Joplin

Briscoe, Sharon Hallum
Marketing
Miami, OK

Brown, Jennifer Lynn
Accounting/Management
Mt. Vernon

Bruffett, Christopher Lee
Accounting
Webb City

Buckner, Crystal G.
Marketing
Webb City

Chairez, Luz Aurora
International Business
Joplin

Chandler, Jessica J.
Marketing
Sarcoxie

Cleveland, Michelle L.
General Business
Bentonville, AR

Colgrove, Tina M.
Accounting
Joplin

Couey, Richard
Management
Neosho

Crane, Patricia Marie
Economics and Finance
Neosho

Davis, Preston
Marketing
Springfield

Dodson, Sharen
Marketing
Purdy

Fields, Elizabeth Lea
Marketing
Webb City

Fleeman, Brock Randall
Accounting
Duenweg

Forrester, Heather Dawn
General Business
Commerce, OK

Gray, Christy McNeal
Management
Nevada

Green, Steven Tyler
Economics and Finance
Butler

Harnar, Lacey
*Accounting/Economics
and Finance*
Joplin

Hayzlett, Cora Lynn
Accounting
Granby

Henson, Emily Kathleen
Management/Marketing
Joplin

Highley, Lisa Marie
General Business
Rich Hill

Holland, Steven Aden
Management
Greenfield

Hoyt, Yancey Swede
Management
Granby

Hummert II, Gregg S.
Economics and Finance
Joplin

Johnson, Benjamin A.
General Business
Broken Arrow, OK

**Johnson, Benjamin
James**
Management
Mt. Vernon

**Kalinowski, Damian
Krzysztof ♦**
Marketing/Management
Gdynia, Poland

Karber, Jason W.
Accounting
Joplin

King, Jennifer Dawn
Management/Marketing
Carthage

Lee, Ryan E.
Marketing/Management
Joplin

Lewis, Sharon Lynn
Accounting
Diamond

Lewis, Stephanie
Management
Rogers, AR

Makeeff, Bronson Duane
Management
Carthage

Martin, Kimarie Ann
General Business
Riverton, KS

Mason, Sarah Elisabeth
Marketing
Joplin

Mather, Jeremy Michael
Accounting
Jasper

Mauk, Brian Douglas
Management
Carl Junction

Mayes, Holly Deanna
General Business
Miami, OK

McCulley, Suzanne E.
Management
Lamar

McDonald, Patricia Wynn
Management
Pierce City

Mendez, Maria Guadalupe
International Business
Neosho

**Mense IV, Eugene
Matthias**
Accounting
Webb City

Miller, Heather
Accounting
Joplin

Mohn, Brian Thomas
Management
Granby

Nguyen, Tram
Accounting
Joplin

Nordell, Sandra Lynn
Accounting
Reeds

Oliver White, Alice-Ann
General Business
Joplin

Patchin, Laura N.
General Business
Sarcoxie

Pierson, Melonie G.
Accounting
Lamar

Rhymer, Jennifer Elizabeth
Management
Sarcoxie

Roberts, Justin
Accounting
Nevada

Roberts, Tanner Christian
Management
Joplin

**Robinson, Stephanie
LeAnne**
Accounting/Management
Webb City

Rutledge, Chad P.
General Business
Joplin

Schattilly, Beth Marie
Accounting
Tucson, AZ

Schmidt, Susan Kay
Accounting
Neosho

Schroer, Jennifer Joanne
Marketing
Joplin

Scott, Patrick
Accounting
Carthage

Shannon, Carrie Elizabeth
Accounting
Amsterdam

Smith, Aimee Shannon
Accounting
Carthage

Snow, Barbara Lynn
General Business
Neosho

Stefan, Natalie M.
General Business
Golden City

Stelmach, Jeffrey W.
Economics and Finance
Joplin

Terry, Emily Lynn
Management
Purdy

Torbeck, Tanina Lynn
Accounting
Lamar

Ushakov, Egor V.
International Business
Neosho

Victor, Alicia
Marketing
Fairland, OK

Voss, Kirk G.
*Accounting/Economics
and Finance*
Joplin

Walker, Alicia M.
General Business
Joplin

Watson, Angela C.
Accounting
Joplin

Willard, Jr., John Keith
International Business
Wadsworth, IL

Williams, Jennifer L.
Marketing
Nevada

**Williams, Thomas
Langston**
International Business
Joplin

Yust, Robert Anthony
Marketing
Seneca

School of Education

Bachelor of Arts

Boyd, Shawn
Psychology
Carthage

Deardorff, Blake Walker
Psychology
Webb City

Hoagland, Lauren Elizabeth
Psychology
Cartersville

McCormick, Jenny Melvia
Psychology
Joplin

Bachelor of Science

Branstetter, Ryan Douglas
Health Promotion and Wellness
Joplin

Mims, Marie Bernadette
Psychology
Carthage

Rojas, Kristine S.
Psychology
Joplin

Tyner, Robin Elizabeth
Psychology
Miami, OK

Kellhofer, Sara Renee
Psychology
Joplin

Owen, Jared
Psychology
Joplin

Snow, Nichole Leigh
Health Promotion and Wellness
Joplin

Bachelor of Science in Education

Baker, Lisa Isgrigg
Elementary Education
Webb City

Cowgur, Cheryl A. ♦
Elementary Education
Seneca

Duckworth, Kathy A.
Elementary Education
Joplin

Freeman-Postlewait, Jennifer Lynn
Physical Education
Purdy

Baugh, Kalyn Gwen
Elementary Education
Carthage

Crawford, Justin Lynn
English Education
Neosho

Dunn, Randolph Jay
Unified Science - Chemistry Education
Neosho

Friskey, Michelle Kay
Elementary Education
Joplin

Boone, Nicole Marie
Elementary Education
Carthage

Creekmore, Michael Don
Physical Education
Joplin

Ellis, Deborah A.
Spanish Education
Anderson

George, Kelly Jo
Physical Education
Monett

Brattin, Tiffany S.
Elementary Education
Rocky Comfort

Daniel, Chett
Social Science Education
Neosho

Erwin, Brett J.
Physical Education
Nevada

Gillispie, Jill
Elementary Education
Kimberling City

Broadbudd, Angela Marie
Middle School Education
Cartersville

Davison, Tammy Marie
Elementary Education
Joplin

Fisher, Lauren L.
Elementary Education
Mt. Vernon

Goetz, Sarah Joe
Elementary Education
Florissant

Cassady, Sarah Wilson
Elementary Education
Carl Junction

Deshayes, Melissa Marie ♦
Elementary Education
Longmont, CO

Freeman, Michelle Lynn
Elementary Education
Webb City

Griffith, Sarah Louise
Elementary Education
Carthage

Hart, Valarie Hobson
Elementary Education
Carl Junction

Hayes, Dove Evonne
Elementary Education
Neosho

Hembree, Kim
Elementary Education
Diamond

Hobbs, Barbara
Elementary Education
Anderson

Hoenshell, Sara
Elementary Education
Joplin

Howard, Carolyn Michelle
Elementary Education
Carl Junction

Jelinek, Shanna Elizabeth
Elementary Education
Monett

King, Lana Kay
Elementary Education
Diamond

Langston, Melissa
French Education/English Education
Joplin

LaRue, Kevin C.
Social Science Education
Ponca City, OK

LoPresti, Toni Frances Rose
Elementary Education
Joplin

Lund, Ryan Mikell
Elementary Education
Purcell

Manning, Joshua
Elementary Education
Southwest City

Moore, Shawna Kay
Business Education
Diamond

Navarro, Jason Lee
Social Science Education
Diamond

Olson, Amber Shay
English Education
Miami, OK

Osborne, Daniel Lee †
Elementary Education
Jasper

Palmer, Laurie Ann
Elementary Education
Sarcoxie

Parrish, Christine K.
Music Education
Joplin

Phipps, Linda Diane
French Education
Carl Junction

Phipps, Wendy Lee ♦ †
Elementary Education
Lamar

Pickering, Terri Denise
Elementary Education
Carthage

Randolph, Katrina JaNiece
Spanish Education
Granby

Reece, Misty Dawn
Elementary Education
Southwest City

Replogle, Heather Nicole
Elementary Education
Nevada

Rosebrough, Matthew Boyd
Elementary Education
Springfield

Sample, Jill Elaine
Elementary Education
Salem

Shaw, Eric A.
Physical Education
Stoutland

Smith, Jennifer Marie
Art Education
Neosho

Spencer, Mary E. ♦
English Education
Welch, OK

Stephens, Kelli June
Elementary Education
Cassville

Sweet, Lisa Ann
Elementary Education
Webb City

Talley, Kristy Elaine ♦ †
Music Education
Joplin

Taylor, Amanda D.
Elementary Education
Cartersville

Taylor, Ashley D.
Elementary Education
Joplin

Turnbull, Bonnie Kay
Elementary Education
Marionville

Westover, Tiffany De'ette
Elementary Education
Harrisonville

Williams, Charity Dawn
Physical Education
Neosho

School of Technology

Bachelor of Science

Blender, Chris Michael
Criminal Justice
Administration
Joplin

Camden, Tina Dawn
Criminal Justice
Administration
Joplin

Carter, Jason W.
Criminal Justice
Administration
Rocky Comfort

Goforth, Tina Lea
Criminal Justice
Administration
Butler

Hartman, John Taylor
Criminal Justice
Administration
Joplin

Hinman, Bradley A.
Computer Information
Science
Joplin

Howe, Terry D.
Computer Information
Science
Neosho

Hunter, William B.
Computer Information
Science
Webb City

Jensen, Jerome Allen
Criminal Justice
Administration
Joplin

Keith, Michael Gerald
Computer Information
Science
Carthage

Kyte, Craig
Criminal Justice
Administration
Joplin

Ledford, Lance L.
Computer Information
Science
Joplin

Lewandowski, Mark
Computer Information
Science
Joplin

Lewis, Viola Robinson
Criminal Justice
Administration
Joplin

Mackney, David Earl
Criminal Justice
Administration
Joplin

Morrison, Jr., Gary Lynn
Computer Information
Science
Neosho

Nielson, Tracy L. †
Criminal Justice
Administration
Joplin

Palmer, Michael
Criminal Justice
Administration
Reeds Spring

Pruitt, John W.
Computer Information
Science
Harrisonville

Purse, Damian Louis
Criminal Justice
Administration
Kansas City

Rojas, Kristine S.
Criminal Justice
Administration
Joplin

**Shryock, Katherine
Elizabeth**
Criminal Justice
Administration
Webb City

Stewart, Cheryl Lee
Computer Information
Science
Carl Junction

Tyler, Jennifer Lynn
Computer Information
Science
Galena, KS

**Vaccaro, Vincente
Joseph**
Criminal Justice
Administration
Anaheim, CA

Viebrock, Skyler Don
Criminal Justice
Administration
Joplin

Williams, Angela Jolene
Criminal Justice
Administration
Miller

Bachelor of General Studies

Bradshaw, Raman Leon
General Studies
Webb City

Brane, Karl Matthew
General Studies
Joplin

Daigh-Jacobson, Kelley Marie
General Studies
Republic

De Wildt, Pieterbas
General Studies
Biddinghuizen Netherlands

Earl, Jared L.
General Studies
Jasper

Gomes, Leonardo
General Studies
Rio de Janeiro, Leblon, Brazil

Griffin, Adam D.
General Studies
Republic

Hansen, Joseph D.
General Studies
Neosho

Harsh, James Christopher Bryant
General Studies
Carl Junction

Horning, Kenny
General Studies
Nevada

McKnight, Yancy J.
General Studies
Allen, TX

Miksell, DeAnna Nicole
General Studies
Joplin

Rogers, Kimberly K.
General Studies
Carl Junction

Shryock, Mark A.
General Studies
Baxter Springs, KS

Starnes, Billy
General Studies
Kansas City

Wood, Robert D.
General Studies
Joplin

Associate of Arts

Blalock, Brenda L.
General Studies
Joplin

Cooper, Norma Leanne
General Studies
Carl Junction

Field, Cathleen A.
General Studies
Neosho

Gregory, Nicole LeAnn
General Studies
Creighton

Hensley, Amy LeAnn
General Studies
Carthage

Morgan, Daniel Duane
General Studies
Joplin

Murray, Elizabeth
General Studies
Nevada

Petersen, Gina Desiree
General Studies
Neosho

Rolando, Charity JoLynn
General Studies
Nevada

Smith, Tabitha Ann
General Studies
Lamar

Stoker, Sarah Rachael
General Studies
Webb City

Strait, Wendy Rae
General Studies
Carthage

Associate of Science

Alderman, Debby Jane
Respiratory Therapy
Neosho

Blender, Chris Michael
Law Enforcement
Joplin

Bortel, Lisa K.
Respiratory Therapy
Monett

Burns, Steven K.
Computer Aided Drafting and Design
Saginaw

Bybee, Jill A.
Respiratory Therapy
Webb City

Byers, Brent Louis
Computer Information Science
Carthage

Carter, Jason W.
Law Enforcement
Rocky Comfort

Chance, Victoria Ilene
Respiratory Therapy
Richland

Cole, Julie Renee
General Business
Joplin

Coleman, Tony W.
Law Enforcement
Sarcoxie

Collins, Wilma Ramirez
Respiratory Therapy
Joplin

Dawson, Margo L.
Respiratory Therapy
Wentworth

Dunson, Michael Jeffrey
Respiratory Therapy
Joplin

Gambill, Jr., Gary A.
*Computer Information
Science*
Ogalla, NE

Gish, Amanda
*Computer Information
Science*
Sarcoie

Hall, Steven Wayne
*Computer Aided Drafting
and Design*
*Computer Assisted
Manufacturing
Technology*
Washburn

Hartman, John Taylor
Law Enforcement
Joplin

Hartsell, David R.
*Computer Assisted
Manufacturing
Technology*
Pleasant Hill

Hatfield, Michelle R.
Respiratory Therapy
Carl Junction

Higgs, Paula
*Computer Aided Drafting
and Design*
Monett

Hinman, Bradley A.
*Computer Information
Science*
Joplin

Howe, Terry D.
*Computer Information
Science*
Neosho

Hunter, William B.
*Computer Information
Science*
Webb City

Jensen, Jerome Allen
Law Enforcement
Joplin

Kamler, Meghan Theresa
*Computer Information
Science*
Joplin

Keith, Michael Gerald
*Computer Information
Science*
Carthage

Kooker, Jillian Leigh
Respiratory Therapy
Butler

Koronis, Tara Michelle
Respiratory Therapy
Picher, OK

Lewandowski, Mark
*Computer Information
Science*
Joplin

Lewis, Caleb Andrew
Respiratory Therapy
Seneca

Mackney, David Earl
Law Enforcement
Joplin

McDonald, Patricia W.
Accounting
Pierce City

**McFall, Christopher
Michael**
Respiratory Therapy
Joplin

Miller, Linnie L. (Sue)
Respiratory Therapy
Stark City

Moore, Julie Suzanne
*Computer Information
Science*
Winfield, KS

Morrison, Jr., Gary Lynn
*Computer Information
Science*
Neosho

Nunnally, Robert C. ♦
*Computer Information
Science*
Joplin

Osiier, Brian Edward
*Computer Assisted
Manufacturing
Technology*
Jasper

Pruitt, John W.
*Computer Information
Science*
Harrisonville

Purse, Damian Louis
Law Enforcement
Kansas City

Reed, Steven D.
*Computer Assisted
Manufacturing
Technology*
Joplin

Rhinehart, Judith Ann
Accounting
Joplin

Smith, Joshua A.
Law Enforcement
Verona

Soprych, Sharon M.
*Computer Aided Drafting
and Design*
Joplin

Spicer, Preston Scott
Respiratory Therapy
Joplin

Stewart, Cheryl Lee
*Computer Information
Science*
Carl Junction

Stipp, Kyle A.
General Business
Stark City

Theil, Alicia M.
Respiratory Therapy
Carthage

Topete, Carmen Liliana
Respiratory Therapy
Carthage

Tyler, Jennifer Lynn
*Computer Information
Science*
Galena, KS

Viebrock, Skyler Don
Law Enforcement
Joplin

West, Jessica
Respiratory Therapy
Galena, KS

Williams, Angela Jolene
Law Enforcement
Miller

Academic Attire

*A*s early as the twelfth century the first modern universities, at Bologna and Paris, were centers of European learning. The usual garb of the time, for both churchmen and laymen, was a long gown which was necessary for warmth in the unheated buildings of the day. Scholars, generally members of church orders, wore such robes and also hoods to protect their shaven heads. Later, skull caps were worn on the head, and the hood became a cape which could be pulled over the head in unpleasant weather. The hood was also sometimes used to collect alms from the more affluent members of the community. As additional universities were founded, distinctive forms of the gown and hood were adopted by their faculties. Variations indicated ranks within the institutions. Strict rules were published and in some cases punishment cited for tailors who departed from the authorized design.

The academic hat was a later development, adapted from the headdress of the ordinary people. Academically, it was originally worn as a symbol of the master's degree, and existed in various forms: some were round, some square and some had a tuft in the center. The flat, square "mortar board" of today originated at Oxford University in England.

Academic costume came to America in 1754 with the founding of King's College, now Columbia University. Styles became quite varied as they were in Europe, but in 1895 a group of American college and university representatives met to establish a uniform system of academic apparel for this country. This led to the establishment in 1902 of an "Intercollegiate Code of Academic Costume." The American Council of Education formed a committee in 1932 to review the 1895 code, which was again reviewed and revised in both 1960 and 1965.

There are today three basic types of gowns and hoods. The bachelor's gown has pointed sleeves and is designed to be worn closed. Recipients of the associate degrees wear gray gowns designed like the bachelor's gown. The master's gown is designed with an oblong sleeve, open at the wrist and with an arc cut away at the front of the sleeve. It may be worn either open or closed. The doctoral gown is of a full design with voluminous sleeves, and it also may be worn open or closed. Unlike the other two, the doctoral gown is faced down the front with velvet and with three velvet bars on the sleeves. These may be black or a color related to the subject of the degree. Thus, arts, letters and humanities may be white, business degrees may be drab or sapphire blue, education uses light blue, fine arts is brown, music is pink and science is golden yellow, to name a few.

The caps are always black, with a black tassel for baccalaureate degrees and a tassel of the color indicated above for master's. Doctoral caps usually have a tassel of metallic gold color.

The hoods worn by master's degree recipients are lined with the official colors of the institution awarding the degree. The binding and edging of the hood is silk or velvet in the color pertaining to the subject area. Doctoral hoods are longer and designed somewhat fuller, but the colors again are those of the institution granting the degree for the lining, and of the subject for the wide edging. There exists a small bachelor's hood, but generally it is not used in this country.



Our Mission

Missouri Southern State College is a state-supported, comprehensive college offering programs leading to the bachelor's degree. Faithful to its original statutory charter, the College also offers continuing education courses and a number of two-year programs in technical and vocational areas for the benefit of the community.

The College's primary emphasis is the offering of a baccalaureate program that fosters the total education of each student. Central to that mission is a strong commitment to international education, to the liberal arts, to professional and preprofessional programs, and to the complementary relationship that must exist between liberal and professional education in order to prepare individuals for success in careers and lifelong learning.

Inherent in its international approach to undergraduate education is the College's desire to prepare its students to understand world affairs, international issues and other cultures as seen through their history, geography, language, literature, philosophy, economics and politics. Knowledge and understanding of other cultures of the world also promote better understanding of our own valuable cultural diversity.

Missouri Southern's commitment to the liberal arts is reflected in a comprehensive program of general education requirements for all students to ensure that they have a breadth of educational experiences which will enable them to develop communication and critical thinking skills and to acquire and apply aesthetic, contemporary, civic, international, historical, mathematical, scientific and value-oriented perspectives.

The faculty and staff of Missouri Southern State College emphasize quality teaching and learning as the most important attributes of the College, complemented by scholarly and creative expression and dedicated community service. Community service involves responsiveness to the Southwest Missouri region as well as serving as the intellectual, creative and cultural center of the area.

In order to remain loyal to the trust given to the College by the people of the State of Missouri, Missouri Southern State College will:

- fulfill its mission and objectives in an honorable and ethical manner;
- periodically review its mission in light of contemporary changes in society and in the needs of the people of Missouri;
- continually assess the effectiveness of its programs in order to ensure their quality and integrity.